A RESOLUTION to congratulate Glencliff High School on winning the state championship of the 8th Annual "We the People" National Competition on the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary young people who have worked assiduously, ingeniously applied their natural talents and logged many hours of intensive studying to achieve academic success; and

WHEREAS, Metro Nashville's Glencliff High School has recently won the state championship of the 8th annual "We the People..." National Competition on the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, Glencliff High School represented the 5th Congressional District by virtue of an earlier win over two-time defending state champion Hillsboro High School and University School; Glencliff then defeated Camden High School of Camden and Treadwell High School of Memphis to earn its second state crown; and

WHEREAS, Glencliff will now proudly represent Tennessee at the national competition in Washington, D.C., April 28-May 1; and

WHEREAS, the team is comprised of a U.S. Government class expertly taught by Jeff Hudgins, who has coached Glencliff teams in this competition for four years. Members of the class are Jeff Burroughs, Katy Campi, Tanya Cotton, Shouvik Das, Gwen Dison, Melissa Larson, Jennifer Maynard, Tracy Roberts, Keynona Stewart, Devi Thorpe, Thi Lynn Vo, John Vongsamphanh, Valerie Weakley, Melinda Witlock, Chuck Winfrey, and Abe Scraggins; and

WHEREAS, the content of the competition centers around the Bill of Rights, from its historical context and intent to the expansion of civil liberties; and

WHEREAS, the Glencliff team used many resources, textbooks, magazines, newspapers, and CNN; and

WHEREAS, Vanderbilt law students and the law firm of Gullett, Sanford, Robinson & Martin assisted the team with mock congressional hearings; and

WHEREAS, Mary Catherine Bradshaw and two of her Hillsboro students also helped prepare Glencliff for the state competition; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Civic Education has provided round trip airfare to the state champions, plus a stipend for each student; Dr. Dorothy Skeel, the state coordinator for "We the People" is providing an additional stipend per student from her budget; and

WHEREAS, the Glencliff students are now busily engaged in fundraising activities to defray the remainder of their expenses to the national competition in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly wish to grasp this golden opportunity to recognize this inspirational group of youngsters on their sterling success in academic competition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and congratulate Jeff Hudgins and his U.S. Government class at Glencliff High School on capturing the state championship laurels of the 8th annual "We the People" National Competition on the United State Constitution and Bill of Rights, applaud their extensive knowledge of civics, government and American democracy, and extend our best wishes for continued success to them as they astutely represent Tennessee at the national competition in Washington, D.C.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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